



ALASKA FLY FISHING LODGE ADVENTURE

July 28 – August 4, 2007

COST: \$2,800

WELCOME to the Fishing Adventure of a lifetime! Our small group will fly into an extremely remote, yet comfortable, fishing lodge approximately 25 miles from Denali National Park. The location of our rustic lodge is the key to offering some of the world's best stream fishing. We will be surrounded by miles and miles of fantastic fishing waters in the heart of the Alaskan Wilderness. Don't be surprised if we never see another angler outside our own group during our stay. The solitude and the fishing action are awesome! Comparatively speaking, if you were to attempt to arrange a similar trip for yourself and a friend you should expect to pay at least twice the price! The mission of this special week-long trip will be to provide our group with the very best Rainbow Trout and Silver Salmon fishing in Alaska. With miles of secluded rivers, streams and creeks we will be made to feel as if we are the only fly fishing anglers in all of Alaska.

DESCRIPTION: The majority of our fishing will be on streams, creeks and small rivers. The lower sections of these waters have deep pools that collect enormous schools of salmon, while the middle sections have wadeable holes, which the salmon and rainbows slowly work their way through on their journey upstream. The upper reaches of these waters are the spawning grounds for the salmon. And spawning salmon grounds are the premier location for catching big Rainbow Trout. The week we have scheduled will be a prime time for pursuing both "chrome bright", hard fighting, silver salmon and eager and wild rainbow trout. Silver Salmon are the premier fly fishing salmon because they hit dry flies and streamer patterns aggressively and possess world renowned fighting ability. The Wild Rainbow Trout see very little fishing pressure and eagerly hit dry flies, egg patterns, flesh patterns and smolt imitations.

In addition to Silvers and Rainbows we will also have to opportunity to catch: Sockeye (Reds), Chum (Dogs) and Pink (Humpy) Salmon; Dolly Varden/Arctic Char; Northern Pike; and Arctic Grayling.

LODGING: Our rustic lodge has basic cabins with 2 to 4 beds, depending on cabin. Generally we sleep 2 adults to each cabin, with close friends or families staying in the cabin with 4 beds. The cabins lack running water and electricity, but the main lodge building, just steps away, has very nice bathrooms, dining room, kitchen and living room. All linens are provided during your stay. Possibly the best thing about our remote and rustic lodge location will be the fact that we are 15 feet away from the river. This means that we can fish in the very early morning or late into the night (keep in mind that we will not really experience complete darkness—just a very low twilight from 1:00am-4:30am).

FOOD: Plan on being amazed at the extraordinary efforts our lodge staff goes to provide you with hearty meals and snacks each and every day. After a long day of fishing there is nothing like coming back to the lodge for a dinner such as prime rib, turkey, New York steaks, chicken, Alaska sea food and pork roast. Breakfast will be buffet style with eggs, hot cakes, potatoes, sausage, bacon, fresh fruit, juices, coffee and fresh baked rolls. Lunches will be packed in the morning and carried by the guides so that we may enjoy a shore lunch –how does a fresh caught silver salmon prepared over the fire sound?

SAFETY: We will be several hours by bush flight from advanced medical facilities in Anchorage. Everyone on this trip must make a conscious effort at all times to be safe. We expect everyone to accept the responsibility of keeping oneself and the group free of injury. Your Aztec Adventures guide will be a certified Wilderness First Responder that has extensive training dealing with injuries and illnesses in a wilderness setting—however this is not cause for being careless, exceeding your physical abilities or taking good care of yourself.

GUIDES/LEADERSHIP: One Aztec Adventure Trip Coordinator/Leader will join you on this trip and work with the lodge fishing guides and staff to ensure that our Alaska Fly Fishing Adventure is truly a trip of a lifetime. Our fishing guides are expert in their craft. They will provide you with all the tackle, flies, rods and reels you will need. They also have a wide assortment of spinning, casting, and fly rods, for you to use and enjoy.

PREPARATION SKILLS: No fly fishing experience is necessary, but of course is very worthwhile to maximize your time. Our guides will be happy to outfit you with spinning or casting gear if that is more comfortable to start. We hope that all novice fly fishing anglers will take great advantage of the wealth of expertise our fishing guides possess to obtain a life long skill and passion for the sport. In addition to the specific fishing skills we hope you will mentally and physically prepare for spending long Alaskan days outside. Rain, wind, sun, clouds, bugs, are all in abundance during the summer in Alaska.

CLOTHING/EQUIPMENT: Space will be somewhat limited on our “Bush Flight” from Anchorage so bringing the bare essentials is advised. Your fishing outfit will not change the entire week (please consult list). So it comes down to having comfortable clothes to change into after a day of fishing and a system of insulating and waterproof layers for staying warm and dry.

PRE-TRIP MEETING: We will have an optional pre-trip meeting prior to departing San Diego. We welcome the opportunity to meet everyone on the trip but also recognize that we may have a few out of town people joining us making it impractical to have 100% attendance. We will cover every aspect of the trip in great detail as well as get to know each other. We can also arrange for some informal meeting to practice our fly casting, fishing knots, rod and tackle selection, etc.

PARTICIPATION: We hope you will welcome the opportunity to make some new friends and share a passion for fishing and the wilds of Alaska. Fishing can be an activity of solitude or to be shared with a good friend or two. We will have ample opportunity throughout the week to spread out over eight miles of river in front of our lodge and to come together each morning and evening to share meals and relive the joys of fishing and catching!!!

HEALTH/PHYSICAL CONDITIONING: Though this is not physically demanding of a trip overall, we do ask that you be physically able to travel and live in and with the elements for the duration of the trip. Standing in a fast moving stream all day as well as hiking up and down the river for a couple of miles with chest waders can be tiring. Casting a fly rod for hours upon hours can also make one’s shoulder sore. Fighting big fish can cause your forearms to cramp up (we hope for a lot of this!) If you have any health or medical concerns please feel free to discuss these with us prior to the trip. Please ask us if you have specific questions in regards to a pre-trip conditioning plan.

RISKS/HAZARDS: A “Bush Plane” will shuttle us into the lodge and land on a dirt/gravel air strip. We will only fly during “good” weather conditions. It is very possible that our departure could be delayed either coming or going from Anchorage. The flight takes less than one hour, but could be rough due to wind and rain. Motion sickness can be a problem for people who experience it on boats and in cars. In addition, we will be in the middle of the Alaskan Wilderness where grizzly bears and black bears abound—especially during salmon spawning. Our guides will instruct us carefully in dealing with potential bear encounters during our stay.

FISH AND WILDLIFE: All five species of Pacific salmon -- king, sockeye (red), pink, silver, and chum -- spawn in the area we will be visiting. Silver Salmon will be the most abundant during our stay and are by far the most common of the salmon species to take a fly. Rainbow trout, grayling, arctic char, dolly varden, and northern pike abound. Moose, brown bear, and black bear can be seen throughout the area with caribou and dall sheep generally found in the nearby mountain passes. Common small game and furbearers include beaver, muskrat, river otter, fox, mink, and porcupine. Birds nesting in the area include a wide variety of waterfowl, gulls, bald eagle, golden eagle, arctic tern, various loons, spotted and least sandpipers, semi-palmated plover, willow ptarmigan, and spruce grouse. Numerous other migratory birds pass through.

WEATHER: Partly sunny, partly cloudy, chance of rain is the typical summer weather forecast in this part of Alaska. The weather is generally cool and moist with highs in the 60's and lows in the 40's. We could of course get a heat wave where we experience bright sunny days in the 70's and it's possible to have several days of constant drizzle with temps in the mid 40's. Either way, count on plenty of daylight with plenty of time to enjoy our wilderness locale.

COST: The price for this trip of a lifetime is \$2800. A \$500 deposit is required to reserve your space. An \$800 additional payment is due no later than March 30, 2007. Final payment of \$1500 is due no later than May 31, 2007.

INCLUDED IN THE COST: Round trip bush flight from Anchorage, seven days and six nights of world class Alaskan fly fishing, three hearty meals plus snacks per day, cabin lodging based on double occupancy, professional Alaskan fishing guides, friendly lodge staff and cooks, Aztec Adventures trip coordinator/group leader, and complete outfitting (if needed) of fishing tackle, rods, flies, reels, etc.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE COST: Alaska Fishing License. Alcoholic beverages to enjoy conservatively at the end of a good day. Fishing Guide/Lodge staff gratuities. Round trip airfare to Anchorage from San Diego or wherever is home. Lodging and/or meals in Anchorage at the beginning and end of our trip. Our Aztec Adventures Trip Coordinator can make numerous recommendations on Anchorage lodging and dining from low end to high end—and even take care of reservations.

CANCELLATION POLICY: This trip, because of its nature and commitment level, requires a very strict cancellation policy. We highly recommend the purchase of short term travel insurance to protect your investment from unforeseen events or emergencies. If you cancel from this trip sixty (90) days or more prior to July 28, you are entitled to a refund less a 50% handling fee. If you cancel from this trip after the aforementioned deadline and two weeks prior to July 13 you will receive a refund less 50% handling fee or a credit voucher—only if we can fill your space. If we cannot fill your space we will need to deduct a 75% handling fee. Cancellations with less than two weeks notice will result in a complete loss of fees.

ARRIVING EARLY/STAYING LATER: We have always encouraged all of our Alaska trip members, over the years, to maximize their time in the “Great Land”. By all means, please arrive early and stay late. There are amazing sights to see in and around the Anchorage area. Renting a car creates all kinds of possibilities. We will be happy to share our recommendations from many years of travel experience to in Alaska.

WHAT TO BRING:

Everyone is limited to one large duffel type bag, a small day pack (that can fit under a air plane seat)—plus Rods

Fly Fishing Gear

There are a number of tackle shops in Anchorage that will have everything that you will need—please be prepared prior to the start of the trip—we will have limited opportunity to purchase tackle once the trip begins.

Rods: 5 weight fly rod is ideal for Rainbow Trout and a 7 or 8 wt. fly rod is ideal for Silver Salmon. The guides will provide a variety of rods for your use if you do not already own or want to try before you buy.

Reels & Line: See above for weights. A floating line is ideal. Sink tips or intermediate lines will not work well as we will be fishing smaller streams and rivers.

Leaders: 9 foot leaders—anywhere from 10 – 14lb. (10lb. “spider-line” is ideal)

Tippet: See above

Split Shot: Size 3/0 removable

Hooks: Size 10

Beads: Plastic salmon egg size beads will be provided by the guides to be used with the hooks

Flys: glow bugs, flesh patterns, egg sucking leach patterns, wooly buggers, etc. size 6 & 8 are ideal.

Fishing Clothing/Gear:

Breathable Chest Waders (neoprene will be too uncomfortable/hot)

Wading Boots with felt soles

Polarized sun glasses with retaining strap

2-3 pair of wool socks

2 pair of Synthetic Long Underwear tops & bottoms (medium weight & heavy weight)

Fleece Jacket or Pull Over

Waterproof Wading Jacket or Rain Coat

Waterproof Rain Pants (for when you're not fishing)

Fly Fishing Vest or Chest Pack

Small pack to carry snacks/lunch and water if your vest does not have capacity.

Camera & Film

One Quart Water Bottle/Canteen

Wool or Synthetic Stocking Cap

Lucky Fishing Hat

Neoprene or Wool Gloves, Finger Gloves (if you tend to get cold hands)

Sleeping & Cabin Gear:

The cabins will have sheets, blankets, pillows, towels & wash cloths.

Small Flashlight or head lamp for reading in the evenings

Ear Plugs (maybe your cabin buddy snores?)

Small Alarm Clock

Favorite Book(s)

Toiletries:

(you know what to bring to feel comfortable & clean)

Misc. Gear/Clothes:

Comfortable Walking Shoes/Tennis Shoes

Comfortable clothing for evenings or around cabins

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Saturday, July 28: Arrive in Anchorage, Alaska. Enjoy city on your own if arriving early. Meet in front of designated restaurant/motel 7pm, for dinner and meet and greet—and last minute details.

Sunday, July 29: Meet at local airstrip at designated morning hour for departure to lodge. Aztec Adventures coordinator/trip leader will arrange transportation for group from motel in Anchorage. Arrive at lodge before lunch, move into cabins, change into fishing clothes and start fishing. Guides will be ready to start as soon as you are!

Monday, July 30 to Friday, August 3: Wake up, go fishing, eat breakfast, go fishing, take a lunch break, go fishing, come back to lodge, shower, relax, eat dinner, go fishing, go to bed. Of course there are opportunities to kayak, explore the area on foot, view wildlife and just take in the amazing scenery.

Saturday, August 4: Normal day up until around 4:00pm where we will need to be completely packed up and ready for our return bush flight to Anchorage. It is very possible to catch a late night flight back to San Diego as many airlines have departures from 10pm until after midnight. Otherwise, spend another night enjoying Anchorage and depart at a later date.